

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 02893 080627Z

21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W

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R 080543Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5668

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 2893

FOR ASST. SECRETARY HABIB FROM AMBASSADOR GREEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TV APPEARANCE FOR ASST. SECRETARY HABIB DURING
VISIT TO CANBERRA

YOU MAY RECALL OUR ABORTIVE EFFORTS TO SET UP TV INTERVIEW WITH YOU IN WASHINGTON DURING WHITLAM VISIT, TO BE CONDUCTED BY EXPERIENCED AND RELIABLE AUSTRALIAN JOURNALISTS, ALAN REID AND PETER HARVEY, FOR PROGRAM, "FEDERAL FILE". YOU AGREED TO INTERVIEW, BUT IT TURNED OUT THAT REID AND HARVEY WERE NOT ABLE TO JOIN WHITLAM PARTY, AND INTERVIEW NEVER TOOK PLACE.

YOUR VISIT TO CANBERRA MAY 21-24 PROVIDES CONVENIENT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO BE INTERVIEWED BY REID AND HARVEY FOR SAME PROGRAM. THEY ARE CAREFUL AND RESPONSIBLE, THEY ASK GOOD BUT NOT LOADED QUESTIONS, AND PROGRAM IS CONSISTENTLY OF HIGH STANDARD. MOREOVER, THEY TAPE PROGRAM IN ADVANCE AND RELEASE TO PRESS TRANSCRIPT IN ADVANCE OF AIR TIME, SO THAT STATEMENTS MADE ON PROGRAM GENERALLY GET FULL AND ACCURATE REPORTAGE FOLLOWING DAY.

I RECALL YOUR WISH TO HAVE NO PRESS CONFERENCES WHEN YOU SET UP EA TRIP IN JANUARY (REFTEL). INTERVIEW BY REID AND HARVEY IS NOT THE DIFFUSE AND UNFOCUSSED AFFAIR PRESS CONFERENCE OFTEN IS. I RECOMMEND THAT YOU AUTHORIZE US TO ARRANGE FOR INTERLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VIEW. AS TIME PRESSES, NEED DECISION ASAP AS PROGRAM

FILLED WELL IN ADVANCE OF SCREENING DATES.
GREEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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